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**JAN 18 2006**

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24956      7590      10/18/2005

**MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.  
1800 DIAGONAL ROAD  
SUITE 370  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314**

01/19/2006 MBEYENE2 00000109 09774723

01 FC:1501      1400.00 OP  
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(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/774,723	02/01/2001	Takenori Hirose	H-961	3383

**TITLE OF INVENTION: POLISHING PAD SURFACE CONDITION EVALUATION METHOD AND AN APPARATUS THEREOF AND A METHOD OF PRODUCING A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional	NO	\$1400	\$300	\$1700	01/18/2006
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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
BALI, VIKKRAM	2623	382-108000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).	2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.	MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C. 1 2 3
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3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

HITACHI, LTD.

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

TOKYO, JAPAN

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent):  Individual  Corporation or other private group entity  Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

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 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
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a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  
 b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature

Date JANUARY 18, 2006

Typed or printed name

DANIEL J. STANGER

Registration No. 32,846

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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